National leprosy Eradication Programme, at Bombay on 21st-22nd September 1991. It was felt by the participants of the Conference that all such acts/laws should be reviewed and suitably updated.

(c) Following steps are being taken to change the existing attitude to leprosy patients—

—Emphasis is being given on health education of the leprosy patients, their family members and community about the facts of leprosy and its curability.

—Encouragement to the Voluntary Organisations in the field of leprosy particulary for survey education and treatment activities.

—Community awareness has been included in the evaluation of the programme.

—Special programmes are being undertaken for social and economic rehabilitation of leprosy patients.

Commercial blood Banks

215. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some commercial blood banks in the capital are setting blood by issuing their own certificate with the bottles, claiming that the mandatory screening for AIDS virus had been done and the blood was safe while such blood has been found to contain deadly AIDS virus, just before it was administered to patients in a private nursing home;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry had been ordered into this sordid affair and the action taken against the guilty blood bank's owners; and

(c) what steps are being taken to plug the various lacunae in the existing regulations governing the blood trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) Yes.

(b) The Delhi Administration have set up a committee to investigate the whole issue.

(c) Amendments are proposed in the Rules under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act to require ratification by Central Government before issue of licences for Blood Banks and for laying down clear guidelines for provision of infrastructure, equipment, testing facilities and staff for blood banks. State/UT Governments have been advised to ensure that all Blood Banks are duly licensed and they fully comply with the laws and regulations in force.

Specialists in C.G.H.S. Dispensaries

216. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Specialists available in some nodal C.G.H.S. dispensaries have their timings of examination of patients;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof separately for summer and winter seasons;

(c) whether some C.G.H.S. dispensaries have been attached with these nodal dispensaries;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof;

(e) whether these facilities have duly been displayed at notice boards of attached dispensaries; and

(f) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The timing for examination of patients are as under:—

Summer From 8.30 A.M.—till all the cases are disposed of.

Winter From 9.00 A. M.—till all the casse are disposed of.